

REMARKS

Claims 50-89 are pending in the above-captioned patent application following this amendment. Claims 12-21 have been rejected. Claims 50-89 have been allowed. Claims 12-21 have been cancelled without prejudice by this amendment for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the goals of the Patent Office pursuant to 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (September 8, 2000), even though the Applicant does not agree with the rejections of claims 12-21.

No new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment. Reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested in view of the new claims.


The rejected claims 12-21 have been cancelled and the application is now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the application is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at 858-456-1951 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 5th day of May, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,


STEVEN G. ROEDER
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,227
5560 Chelsea Avenue
La Jolla, California 92037
Telephone: (858) 456-1951